

The total number of fetal deaths (stillbirths of over 20 weeks gestation) to teenagers was 248 in 1977.

Thus about 25,806 pregnancies occurred to teenagers in 1977, and the number would be even higher if miscarriages under 20 weeks were reportable and abortion data on residents who go out of state for abortions were available.

The 1973-1977 pregnancy rates reveal that there has been little change in total pregnancies to teens in North Carolina. A decrease in live births has occurred along with a corresponding increase in abortions. The fetal death rate has remained nearly the same.

The pregnancy rate should be particularly useful in developing and evaluating family planning services in the state as these figures suggest a much larger teen population at risk than indicated by the birth rate.

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